GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2973
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2006
EXPORT OF SPICES .
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) The quantity of spices exported during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;

(b) Whether the export earnings through spices has decreased during the said period;

(c) If so, the reasons therefor;

(d) Whether the Government proposes to give subsidy for the export of spices;

(e) If so, the details thereof; and

(f) The steps taken by the Government to improve the exports of spices?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) The statement on quantity of spices exported during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise, is given below

(b): No, Sir.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): Currently there is no new proposal to give subsidy for the export of spices. However, the Government is already providing freight subsidy to meet part of internal and international freight for export of 20,000 tonnes of pepper till the upper limit of 20,000 MT is reached.

(e) : Does not arise.

(f) : The steps taken by the Government, through the Spices Board, to improve the export of spices are given below :

Upgradation of technology for high end value addition and developing capabilities to meet the emerging global food safety standards.

Adoption of high-tech processing technologies such as cryo-grinding steam sterilisation, super fluid extraction and advanced system of packaging.

Assistance for setting up / upgradation of in-house laboratories of exporters for testing among other things, pesticide residues, aflatoxin, physical, chemical and microbial contaminants and chemical composition of spices.

Adoption of quality certification procedures leading to accreditation under ISO, HACCP, SQF 2000, organic certification etc.

Development of innovative packaging for branded consumer packs for spices and spice products and adoption of barcode.

Encouraging exporters to participate in international trade fairs, meetings etc and undertake business tours to develop personal rapport and relationship with overseas buyers by offering assistance.

Offer of assistance for sending business samples abroad.

Promoting worldwide direct sale of premium category of branded Indian spices viz., "Flavourit", since march 2005.

Promotion of export of organic spices

Quality improvement

Generic promotion of Indian spices through participation in international food fairs and exhibitions besides sending business

delegations to tap new markets.

A WTO compatible subsidy scheme to meet part of internal and international freight for export of 20,000 tonnes of pepper till the upper limit of 20,000 MT is reached.